

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Stacey Bressler is a hard-working leader and volunteer in our community. The St. Helena Chamber of Commerce has recognized her contribution to the health and vitality of our people and economy. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today and congratulate her on this well-deserved award.

HONORING DR. ALOIS KERTZ FOR RECEIVING THE MISSOURI DAIRY HALL OF HONORS' MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Alois Kertz on receiving the Missouri Dairy Hall of Honors' Meritorious Service Award.

Dr. Alois Kertz was born and raised in Bloomsdale, Missouri as one of six children to Andrew and Mathilda Kertz. He became passionate about the dairy industry through his time growing up on the family dairy farm. Dr. Kertz would go on to graduate from the University of Missouri with a bachelor's degree in Dairy Husbandry in 1967 and a master's degree in Dairy Cattle Nutrition in 1968. He then earned a Ph.D. in Animal Nutrition from Cornell University in 1973. Between earning his master's degree and his Ph.D., Dr. Kertz faithfully served in the United States Army as a Nutrition Research Officer in Natick, Massachusetts and then as a Platoon Leader/Food Supply Manager in Thailand during the Vietnam War. He earned the Army Commendation Medal for Meritorious Service in 1969 through 1970 for his dedicated service to our country.

From 1973 to 1975, Dr. Kertz was employed as a dairy nutritionist at Ralston Purina Company. He then worked for Purina Mills as the manager of dairy and ruminant research from 1975 until 1991, at which point, Dr. Kertz became the director of dairy applied research, nutritional consulting program, and technical services at Purina Mills. Dr. Kertz founded ANDHIL, LLC in 2001 as a tribute to his father's dairy herd through which, Dr. Kertz advises clientele from a variety of private companies, agencies, research institutions, dairy organizations, and publications. Throughout the years, Dr. Kertz has also traveled the world to places like Spain, Italy, South Korea, and Brazil to serve as an on-farm consultant and trainer. In the process of those travels he has become a world renowned leader and researcher in the dairy industry.

Dr. Kertz's work has been published in over thirty scientific journal articles. Additionally, he has written numerous articles and has presented to dairy producer groups here in the United States and around the world. He is an active member of the American Dairy Science Association, American Society of Animal Science, American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Society for Nutrition, Dairy Calf and Heifer Association, the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists, and serves as a charter member/diplomat of the American College of Animal Nutrition. Recently, Dr. Kertz's expertise has been utilized by the Masaka Diocese in Uganda to start a dairy cow program that is de-

signed to help families in their community get out of poverty.

Dr. Kertz's lovely wife Molly and their four children, Julia, Emily, Nicholas, and Mary are thrilled that his years of hard work are being rewarded with this well-deserved honor. Dr. Kertz has always been known as an incredibly faithful, patient, and generous man. He is a devout Christian and active in the St. Vincent de Paul Society and Mary Queen of Peace Parish in Webster Groves, Missouri.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Dr. Alois Kertz on this well-deserved award that honors his lifetime of service to the dairy industry.

JONES ACT ANNIVERSARY

HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Mr. Speaker, I was elected to seek equality for the 3.4 million American citizens living in Puerto Rico. I am the sole elected representative for the island and I represent more constituents in my sole district than anyone in this House.

I rise today to honor the one hundredth anniversary of the enactment of the Jones Act which conferred American citizenship on Puerto Ricans, on this day in 1917.

Since then, more than 211,000 veterans have served proudly in the U.S. military where they are equal in war but not in peace.

In battle, the sacrifice, blood, and life of Puerto Ricans is equal to that of other Americans, but in peace, at home, Puerto Ricans are second class citizen, unless they move to the States, which more and more are choosing to do because of the disadvantages they face at home.

In addition to the defense of the United States, Puerto Ricans have contributed to our country in many other ways: Puerto Ricans have served as U.S. astronauts, entertainers, athletes, Supreme Court Justices, and even members of Congress.

From the Borinqueneers of the 65th Infantry Regiment to actors and entertainers of all types, the people of Puerto Rico have been making important contributions to the United States in every field you can imagine for over one hundred years.

Mr. Speaker, as we recognize this important milestone, I urge my colleagues to take time to reflect on how decisions made in this chamber affect our fellow American citizens in Puerto Rico.

For too long, the U.S. has treated Puerto Ricans as second-class citizens. The unequal treatment Puerto Rico receives under most federal programs is a primary cause of the economic and fiscal crisis the island currently faces.

Only by treating the residents of Puerto Rico as it does residents of the 50 states will the promises made by the U.S. government to Puerto Ricans one hundred years ago this day be fulfilled.

That's why I stand with the will of the People of Puerto Rico, to be incorporated to the United States, as the 51st State of the Union, as requested in the 2012 local Plebiscite by 61 percent of voters.

Let this House fulfill the promise that the United States of America is a nation of liberty and justice, for all of us.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL GANG INVESTIGATORS NETWORK 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN K. DELANEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 25th Anniversary of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Gang Investigators Network. MARGIN is a group of federal, state, and local law enforcement professionals, representing agencies throughout Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. who work together to promote officer and public safety by providing relevant gang information to law enforcement officers.

What started as an informal group of gang investigators, has turned into monthly meetings where MARGIN participants gather to exchange information on current investigations, gang structure, membership, and new trends and patterns. MARGIN helps our law enforcement successfully tackle the increasingly complex world of gang violence and keep our region safe. On behalf of my constituents, I'd like to thank the entire MARGIN membership for the work that they do to protect Marylanders.

CONGRATULATING MR. AND MRS. BRADLEY AND KATHERINE MORROW UPON THE BIRTH OF THEIR SON, FINNEGAN FOX MORROW

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor constituents of mine, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley and Katherine Morrow, on the birth of their son, Finnegan Fox Morrow. Bradley and Katherine are residents of Jefferson City, Missouri and welcome their new son into their family along with older brother Bennett.

Bradley and Katherine were married on September 15, 2012 and Finnegan was born on September 14, 2016, which made for a wonderful 4th wedding anniversary present. Bradley works for Division of Professional Registration with the State of Missouri and Katherine is a marketing designer for a Jefferson City magazine.

Many family members have been excited to welcome Finnegan, including maternal grandparents Milton and Cherie Barr, paternal grandparents Sally, Michael and Elizabeth Morrow, and paternal great-grandparent Joseph Morrow.

I ask you to join me in congratulating the Morrow family on this new addition to their family.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. LaMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Placer County

Sheriff Ed Bonner after 42 dedicated years of service to Northern California with the Placer County Sheriff's Department.

I have been fortunate enough to call Ed a friend for some time, and I know firsthand that he has long been considered one of the most respected members of the community since becoming Sheriff in 1995. What truly makes him special is the praise and admiration he receives from his peers. According to those who have worked for him, he set a high standard for taking care of his own and is a man of great integrity and honor. In his 22 year career as Sheriff, he has earned the respect and admiration of Placer County and many others throughout the state of California.

Many talk about creating a family atmosphere at work, but few truly achieve it. As Sheriff, Ed Bonner made the families of his officers and staff a priority. He is with them from the best of times to the worst, from the births of their children to family tragedies. Ed cares about all of those who he worked with, and it showed. Under Ed Bonner's leadership, he made the Placer County Sheriff's office a close knit family and that is a rare achievement.

Ed has earned many professional certificates related to law enforcement, proof that he is truly dedicated to his craft, and he furthers that knowledge by teaching classes at Sierra College and the California Command College. He graduated from California, Berkeley with a Bachelor of Arts in Criminology in 1973, then returned to school to earn a Master's Degree in Management Science at Cal Poly, Pomona, in 1992. Before his law enforcement days, Ed Bonner was a gifted athlete who excelled at track and field, where he still holds multiple state high school records and was inducted into the Del Oro High School Athletics Hall of Fame in 2010. At the University of California, he became the first four year letterman for track and field in the school's history.

As an elected official and an outstanding community member, Ed Bonner is active in all things Placer County. He and his family are very active in the Loomis community, as well as the entire county. He helped found and lead Explorer Post 901, a co-ed youth program teaching vocational skills with an emphasis on law enforcement. He is the liaison between Scout Troop 12, where he achieved the rank of Eagle Scout in 1965, and their chartering organization, the Loomis Lions Club. He also serves on advisory boards including Sutter Health, PRIDE Industries and the Boys and Girls Club of Auburn.

After a distinguished career which included serving as President of the California State Sheriff's Association in 2008, Sheriff Bonner's skills as a law enforcement administrator will be greatly missed by his community. His resume as a law enforcement officer is extensive, but more impressive is Ed Bonner as a man, a husband and a father. While the community he has protected for 42 years could not possibly replace his experience, it is now time for a much deserved retirement which he can spend with his loving family, his wife, Jeanne, his two adult sons, Andrew and Matthew, his daughter-in-law Holly and grandson Mason. It has been a pleasure to work with Sheriff Bonner during my time in public office and I would like to wish him a peaceful and happy retirement as he moves on to embark on a new journey in life.

I thank him for his friendship and service.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF BROWNSVILLE

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rotary Club of Brownsville for their 100th year of service.

Located in South Texas, the Rotary Club of Brownsville was founded in 1916. Since its formation, the club has lived up to its promise of service above self. For 100 years, its members have dedicated time, money and energy to helping those who need it most.

The accomplishments of the Rotary Club include opening the city's first hospital, Mercy Hospital, in 1923; forming a Boy Scout troop; funding the Brownsville Endowment for Teaching Excellence Program; and establishing an Adoption Awareness program. Their achievements have extended beyond the region as this club joined Rotary members throughout the world to fund the Polio Plus Project, a \$120 million effort to wipe the disease from the face of the earth.

The Rotary Club of Brownsville has made a lasting, positive impact in our community, and they will continue to play a critical role in the development of South Texas. I rise today to congratulate them for their century of success.

IN HONOR OF THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RAVENSWOOD FAMILY HEALTH CENTER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 2, 2017

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the awe-inspiring Ravenswood Family Health Center upon the 15th Anniversary of its founding. This clinic is a key provider of quality affordable, integrated healthcare services in the southern cities of my district. Sixteen thousand residents are served annually by its newly-opened, state-of-the-art facility located in the beautiful city of East Palo Alto.

Ravenswood opened as South County Community Clinic in 2000 with 13 employees. It currently has a staff of 182 full and part-time employees and contractors. It employs 25 full or part-time medical providers including physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants, and nurses, six full and part-time dentists, and four behavioral health providers. Seventy-one percent of the clinic's patients are served in their native language, including Spanish and Tongan. Ninety-seven percent of the patients are ethnic minorities.

The center's goal is to provide culturally-competent, sensitive primary and preventive care offering dignity to all patients. Often, the ability of a healthcare provider to do his or her job depends upon knowing how the patient's culture will influence the provider's recommendations. It is essential that the whole patient be treated with respect and offered dignity so that their illness or life situation can be competently assessed.

The clinic offers a comprehensive scope of care including family practice, adult medicine,

teen health, prenatal health, dentistry, women's health, integrated behavioral health, optometry, pharmacy, mammography, ultrasound, x-ray, lab, and health education. Ravenswood partners with Stanford's adult and children's hospitals, the San Mateo County Medical Center and clinics, and Sutter Health.

As of 2014, 98 percent of the clinic's patients lived at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level, which for a family of four is about \$24,300. Forty percent of its patients were uninsured, and 51 percent had Medi-Cal coverage. Our community counts on the Ravenswood Family Health Center to provide care to our most vulnerable residents, and 39 percent of the clinic's patients were children. Five percent of patients were homeless and, also as of 2014, 63 of those patients were children. Nearly 25 percent of all East Palo Alto residents are patients, as are nearly 18 percent of all residents of Belle Haven.

The Ravenswood Family Health Clinic provides valuable training opportunities for young physicians and allied professionals, and an opportunity to practice cutting-edge community healthcare, most notably chronic disease management, in part through grants from the federal government. While many in America struggle to pay for prescription drugs, the advent of the Affordable Care Act coupled with the clinic's discount pharmacy provides affordable prescriptions to both the insured and the uninsured.

The vision of the Ravenswood Family Health Center is also one of stressing control over one's destiny. The vision is: Educated, engaged and empowered patients actively managing their health and becoming advocates for healthy living within their family and the community, inspiring others to value that good health is true wealth.

Not surprisingly, philanthropic support of the Ravenswood Family Health Center has been enormous, with tens of millions donated through its capital and operating campaigns. Much of this philanthropic support is due to the outstanding staff led by the clinic's energetic and visionary Chief Executive Officer, Luisa Buada. From its earliest days, Luisa Buada has assembled a team to take on big goals.

Starting in trailers with a limited number of services, her team has a stellar record of both expanding services and taking on new challenges. To build on the old saying, it takes a village to take care of the health needs of a community and Luisa has assembled her staff village so that no member of the clinic's community goes without access to needed healthcare services. The clinic's board of directors has steadfastly supported the dream of being more than just a community clinic and to instead become a beacon of hope and advanced medicine. Luisa, her staff, and the board have succeeded.

Mr. Speaker, when the history of our era is written it will be noted that America engaged in a decade or more of debate about how best to provide Americans affordable, quality healthcare. What history will not reveal, but what is true, is that the riddle was answered at the Ravenswood Family Health Center. After fifteen years it is a stunning success. Despite its relative youth, the entire organization is very much an adult institution, with adult responsibilities, and an impact that touches and improves the lives of tens of thousands. We